

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended, and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 4, 6, 7, 13-15, 19 and 20 have been rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by *Pangle* (4,364,142); and claims 5 and 10-12 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Pangle*. Accordingly, claims 1, 4-7, 10-15, 19 and 20 remain active in the present application.

Considering the rejection of claims 1, 4, 6, 7, 13-15, 19, and 20 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by *Pangle*, it is submitted that applicant's claim 1, the sole independent claim under this rejection, has been amended so as to overcome the subject rejection. In particular, claim 1 has been amended to define the claimed animal sweat scraper as having an elongated, longitudinally curved scraper blade. This longitudinally curved scraper blade is further defined as having a longitudinally extending curved portion extending between the handle and the blade tip.

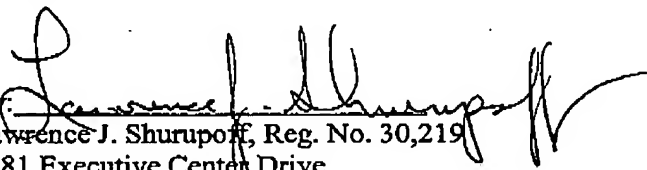
A review of *Pangle* fails to disclose any analogous structure. Rather, *Pangle* discloses a planar handle and planar blade which is ill adapted to match the contours of an animal's body. As disclosed in applicant's paragraph 0038, many differently curved surfaces are possible, but, for a horse, a gentle curve is adequate.

It is submitted that applicant's remaining dependent claims, which depend from claim 1, also patentably define over *Pangle*.

With regard to the rejection of claims 5 and 10-12 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Pangle*, it is submitted that for the reasons indicated above applicant's claims 5 and 10-12 which depend from claim 1, as amended, patentably define over *Pangle*.

Respectfully submitted,

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